

finer structure of which I have been unable as yet to make out. I could find no trace of a hypodermis between the retinal cells and the cuticle.

The eyes have completely lost all traces of a lens. The chitin is thinned away over them, so much so that very minute eyes are little more than plugs of pigment in deep chitinous pits (fig. 2).

I have thought it advisable to publish these notes in advance, as some time must still elapse before my work on the Galeodidæ is ready for publication.

LXII.—*Description of a new Longicorn Beetle of the Genus Diaxenes, which has been found injuring some imported Orchids.* By C. J. GAHAN, M.A.

THE genus *Diaxenes*, Waterh., has up to the present included but a single described species, and with regard to the locality of that species nothing very definite was known. The one example of *D. Taylora*, Waterh. (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 5, vol. xiii. p. 128), which the British Museum contained was found in the Royal Nursery, Chelsea, where it was gnawing off the stems of an orchid from Manilla, of the genus *Phalanopsis*. Three additional examples are, I find, contained in the Pascoe collection; these are ticketed "Moulmein," though on what authority is not stated, and cannot now be ascertained. My reasons for giving Burma as the habitat of the new species are stated below. This new species has also, like its congener, exhibited a special taste for orchids, especially those of the genus *Dendrobium*.

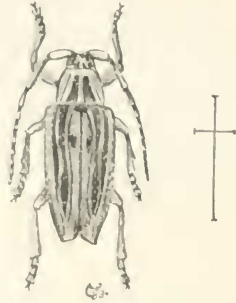
*Diaxenes dendrobii*, sp. n.

Fortiter punctatus; pube fulvo-brunnea sat dense vestitus; prothorace elytrisque albescente lineatis, lineis elytrorum dorsalibus sinuatis; scutello fusco, puncta centrali et limbo externo albis; antennis griseo-fulvis, articulis 4<sup>o</sup> ad 6<sup>um</sup> plus minusve infuscatis. Long. 10-16, lat. 3½-5½ mm.

*Hab.* Burma. On species of *Dendrobium*.

Strongly and rather closely punctured, with the punctures partly concealed by the close pubescence; this is mostly of a fulvous brown or drab colour, but there are darker brown areas on some of the interspaces between the whitish lines; the pronotum bears three white lines, one median and one towards each side, the two latter converging anteriorly. Each

elytron has about six lines of a slightly yellowish tint, of which one lies along the outer margin, the second sets out just below the shoulder and is continued in a nearly straight direction along the side of the elytron, the third proceeds from the upper part of the shoulder and joins the second a little before the apex; the next two lines are dorsal in position, they are subparallel to one another in the anterior fourth of the elytron, behind which they rather abruptly converge; after again diverging slightly they converge to join one another at about the beginning of the apical fourth, whence they are continued as a single line up to the outer angle of the oblique apical truncature; the sixth is a very short line passing back from the base. In addition to these six lines an ashy-grey streak may be seen along the suture,



with a rather faint and broken white line limiting it on the outer side. The body underneath has a drab pubescence, with dark brown areas. The pro- and mesosterna and the lower part of the sides of the prothorax are almost black in colour. The legs and antennæ are covered with a nearly uniform drab-coloured pubescence; but in some examples the intermediate joints of the antennæ are more or less dark brown towards the tip. The front of the head is also in some examples of a dark brown or nearly black colour; but this is partly due to the rubbing away of the pubescence.

Four examples of this species are now in the British Museum collection; they were all taken alive in England upon imported orchids. One was presented by the late Mr. J. C. Bowering, who found it in his conservatory; two were sent by Mr. McLachlan, with the information that they were certainly imported with *Dendrobium nobile* and were playing havoc with the leaves and pseudobulbs of some plants of this species; a fourth specimen, recently presented by Sir Archibald Buchan-Hepburn, was found upon the flower of *Dendrobium atropurpureum*.

There are examples also in the museum of the Hon. Walter Rothschild at Tring; these were likewise found on orchids of the species *Dendrobium nobile*, which, Dr. Jordan informs me, were imported from Moulmein. The areas of known distribution of the two species of *Dendrobium* mentioned appear to overlap only in Burma; so I think I am quite justified in assigning Burma as the habitat of the new species of *Diaxenes*.